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SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT SHIPMENTS FROM NIKOLAYEV  
PORT FACILITIES SOUTH TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES,  
JULY-SEPTEMBER 1983 (S)

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IA 84-10010  
JANUARY 1984

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**Soviet Military Equipment Shipments  
From Nikolayev Port Facilities South to  
Third World Countries, July-September 1983 (s)**

Summary

During the third quarter of 1983 (July through September), we believe the Soviets shipped an approximate total of 120,000 metric tons of cargo from their Black Sea military export port, Nikolayev Port Facilities South. This cargo included approximately 1,700 weapons and other pieces of major military-related equipment. Statistical analysis of imaging frequency of Nikolayev South, and the length of time taken for storage and shipment of equipment, indicates that we see 50 to 80 percent of all major items exported. We observed 49 ships loading cargo at Nikolayev South and estimate that five additional ships also loaded military cargo there during this period. The major recipients of Soviet military exports from Nikolayev South in the third quarter were Iraq, Syria, Cuba, India, and Vietnam.

Significant developments relating to activity at Nikolayev Port Facilities South for the third quarter of 1983 included:

- The shipment to Syria of the SS-21 tactical surface-to-surface missile system--the first deployment of this missile system to other than Soviet forces.
- The shipment of at least 39 BMD airborne amphibious combat vehicles to Iraq, making an approximate total of 75 BMDs delivered to Iraq in the first three quarters of this year.
- The observation of Soviet military cargo being off-loaded in Cuba. Normally military cargo delivered to Cuba is not imaged, because it is quickly offloaded and removed from the port.

Expansion of the facilities at Nikolayev Port Facilities South, begun in April 1983, continued during the third quarter of 1983.

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## Introduction

Almost all weapons and weapon support systems that the Soviets transfer to Third World countries are shipped from the Black Sea port of Nikolayev Port Facilities South. The port exports only military goods. The amounts and types of equipment observed shipped from Nikolayev South and received by Third World countries reflect the character and pattern of Soviet military sales to these countries. This is the third in a series of reports which examines these Soviet military equipment exports from Nikolayev Port Facilities South. (S [redacted]) 25X1

## Discussion

During the third quarter of 1983, we estimate that the Soviets loaded 54 ships at Nikolayev South. We observed 49 ships loading at Nikolayev South. Analysis [redacted] indicates 25X1 that five other ships probably loaded there also. These 54 ships carried approximately 120,000 metric tons of weapons and related equipment; they made at least 85 deliveries to 20 recipient countries.<sup>1</sup> During the first three quarters of 1983, 157 ships have carried about 340,000 metric tons of military cargo from Nikolayev South, making 233 deliveries to 27 recipient countries.<sup>2</sup> (S [redacted]) 25X1

Among the nearly 1,700 observed items of equipment exported in the third quarter were: 123 tanks; 411 armored personnel carriers; 297 pieces of artillery; 95 crated aircraft; 409 missile canisters and crates; 135 missile and rocket launchers;

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<sup>1</sup>Total tonnage is derived from reported cargo weight. When no information on cargo weight is available, an average cargo weight is assigned. Tonnage values are distributed among recipient countries by totaling the weight of known equipment delivered, by drawing upon special intelligence [redacted] 25X1 by dividing the ship's cargo weight equally among the number of offloading countries. The resulting recipient country tonnage figures, which have not been rounded off, often appear to imply a greater degree of precision than is actually warranted by the evidence. (S NF)

<sup>2</sup>For detailed information on specific deliveries from Nikolayev Port Facilities South during the first six months of 1983, see Office of Imagery Analysis, IA M 83-10105, Soviet Military Equipment Exports from Nikolayev Port Facilities South, January-June 1983, September 1983. (S [redacted]) 25X1

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111 articles of missile system support equipment; 44 units of electronics equipment; 67 pieces of engineering equipment; and five miscellaneous pieces of equipment (table 1). Based on statistical analysis of the storage and loading of armored vehicles at Nikolayev South and the frequency of imagery coverage, we believe that we see at the port 50 to 80 percent of all major items of equipment which are exported from Nikolayev South. (S )

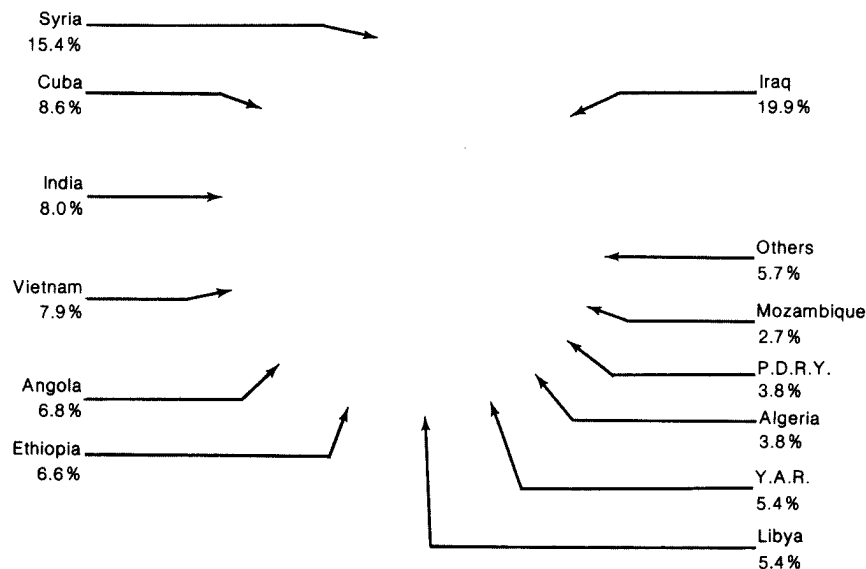
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### Recipient Countries

Of the 20 countries which received military equipment from Nikolayev South in the third quarter of 1983, Iraq received the greatest amount, 24,172 metric tons, and Syria received 18,684 metric tons, the second greatest amount. Cuba, India and Vietnam were other major recipients (figure 1). Table 2 lists the number of deliveries, estimated tonnage delivered, and the known minimum

**Figure 1**

#### Percentage of Metric Tonnage Exported to Third World Countries, Third Quarter 1983



Others: Benin, Congo, Jordan, Kampuchea, Madagascar, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, and Sri Lanka.

Note: This graphic represents the estimated percentage of metric tonnage of weapons and related equipment exported from Nikolayev Port Facilities South and received by Third World countries, July-September 1983, 121,363 metric tons.

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Table 1

**Major Items of Equipment Exported from Nikolayev Port Facilities South,  
July-September 1983 <sup>a</sup>**

Tanks		Missile and Rocket Launchers	
T-72	17	SA-6 TEL	20
T-62	61	SA-8 TELAR	33
T-54/55	22	SS-21 TEL/resupply	18
PT-76	23	BM-14	11
Subtotal	123	BM-21	53
		Subtotal	135
Armored Personnel Carriers		Missile System Support Equipment	
BMP	93	SA-2 Missile Transporter	42
BRDM-2	166	SA-2/3 Canister Transporter	6
BRDM-2RKHM	7	SA-3 Resupply Vehicle	31
BTR-60	46	SA-6 Transloader	14
BTR-152	30	SA-6 Canister Transporter	11
BTR-40	2	SA-8 Resupply Vehicle	7
BMD	39	Subtotal	111
U/I APC	7		
ACRV	21	Electronics Equipment	
Subtotal	411	Tall King B/C Radar Set	1
Artillery		SV-EL-01	2
122mm Howitzer D-30	12	Long Track Radar	2
152mm Gun-howitzer D-20	10	Thin Skin A/B Radar	3
122mm SP Howitzer M-1974	6	Spoon Rest D Radar	7
57mm AT	52	Thin Path Tall Path Radar	2
85mm AT	40	Flat Face Radar	2
100mm AT	40	Odd Pair Radar	3
130mm Field Gun M-46	36	Bar Lock Radar	3
23mm ZSU-23-4 SP AA	40	Big Cap Radio Electronic	3
23mm AA Gun ZU-23	13	Combat Van	
37mm AA	12	R-118 BM-3 Radio	6
57mm AA S-60	18	R-142 Radio	10
14.4mm ZPU-4 AA HMG	18	Subtotal	44
Subtotal	297		
Aircraft Containers		Engineering Equipment	
MiG-17 (Fresco)	6	TMM Bridge	16
MiG-21 (Fishbed)	45	PMP Bridge Set	1
MiG-23 (Flogger)	20	GSP Ferry	2
SU-17/22 (Fitter)	6	PMR-3 Mine Layer	42
MI-24/25 (Hind)	17	BATM Dozer	2
KA-25 (Hormone)	1	MTU Bridge	1
Subtotal	95	ATS-59G Tractor	3
		Subtotal	67
Missile Canisters and Crates		Miscellaneous	
SA-3	108	ARS-14 Decontamination	3
SA-6	68	Vehicle	
SS-21	48	Air Traffic Control Vehicle	2
SSN-2 (Styx)	28	Subtotal	5
AS-9	18		
FROG-7	62	Total	1,697
Oxidizer Tanks	77		
Subtotal	409		

<sup>a</sup>It is likely that during the third quarter we saw at least 50 to 80 percent of all equipment shipped from Nikolayev South. We received useable imagery every 5 to 6 days during this period and most

equipment remained in storage for at least seven days. Some equipment, however, did arrive at the port and was loaded between coverages.

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**Table 2**  
**Major Items of Equipment Exported From Nikolayev Port Facilities South**  
**to Third World Countries, July-September 1983**

Recipient Country	Number of Deliveries	Estimated Metric Tonnage Delivered	Minimum Amounts of Major Items of Military Equipment Received
Total	85	121,363	
Iraq	15	24,172	39 BMD 80 BRDM-2 49 ZU-23 41 MiG-23 2 MiG-21 17 PMR-3 16 units of a PMP set
Syria <sup>b</sup>	13	18,684	7 Med tanks 21 ZSU-23/4 SP AA Guns 1 MiG-21 2 SU-17/22 18 SS-21 TEL/resupply vehicles 48 SS-21 Missile canisters 11 SA-3 Launchers 108 SA-2 Missile canisters 42 SA-2 Canister transporters
Cuba	3	10,392	61 T-62 82 57mm AT Guns 40 85mm AT Guns 15 130mm FG M-46
India	3	9,656	3 MiG-23 10 ZSU-23/4 6 130mm FG M-46
Vietnam <sup>c</sup>	3	9,646	26 BTR-60 5 MiG-21 10 MI-24/25 Helicopter 8 SA-9 Launchers 30 KP-125 Field Kitchens 10 2-Axle Generator trailers 9 Jeep trailers
Angola	6	8,247	17 BTR-60 67 57mm AA Guns S-60 1 MiG-21 12 MI-24/25 Helicopters 20 SA-6 TEL 162 SA-6 Missile Canisters 68 SA-3 Missile Canisters 2 Bar Lock Radar Vans 4 Probable Fire Can Radars 5 PTS 2 GSP 2 BTM

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Table 2 (continued)

Recipient Country	Number of Deliveries	Estimated Metric Tonnage Delivered	Minimum Amounts of Major Items of Military Equipment Received
Ethiopia	7	8,012	23 MiG-21
Libya	8	6,551	7 BMP 13 BM-21 2 Thin Skin B Radars
YAR (North Yemen)	5	6,509	6 BRDM-2 17 ZSU-23-4 SP AA Guns 10 130mm FG M-46 16 MiG-21 2 MiG-17
Algeria	6	4,620	24 BTR-60 21 120mm Mortars M-1943 16 SA-8 TELAR 2 SA-8 Resupply vehicles 1 Tall King B/C radar set 2 Computer/Electronics van
PRDY (South Yemen)	4	4,618	19 BTR-60 3 BRDM-2 3 SU-17/22 24 SSN-2 (Styx) Missile crates
Mozambique	3	3,289	22 T-54/55 17 BRDM-2 30 BTR-152 2 MiG-21 8 MI-24/25 Helicopters 3 PTS
Kampuchea <sup>d</sup>	1	1,415	
Seychelles	2	1,268	
Sri Lanka	1	1,000	
Benin	1	750	
Congo	1	750	

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**Table 2****Major Items of Equipment Exported From Nikolayev Port Facilities South to Third World Countries, July-September 1983 (continued)**

Recipient Country	Number of Deliveries	Estimated Metric Tonnage Delivered	Minimum Amounts of Major Items of Military Equipment Received
Sao Tome and Principe	1	750	
Madagascar	1	667	
Jordan	1	367	Possibly received SA-8 equipment and ZSU-23-4 SPAA Guns (not confirmed by imagery at Aqaba)

a I = Imagery

SI = Special Intelligence

b The 48 SS-21 missile canisters departed Nikolayev South in the fourth quarter 1983. We have accounted for them in the third quarter because the TEL/resupply vehicles did depart in the third quarter.

c The Soviets also delivered at least 21 T-54/55 and 15 T-34 tanks from Vladivostok to Haiphong in September 1983. The shipment of armor to a Third World country from a port other than Nikolayev South is unusual. We observed at least 68 armored vehicles at Vladivostok this year and it is probable that most of that equipment was destined for Vietnam.

Figures for tonnage and equipment received by Vietnam do not include cargo offloaded at the Kampuchean port of Kompong Som.

d The bulk of Soviet military equipment delivered to the Kampuchean port of Kompong Som is assigned to the Peoples Army of Vietnam forces in Kampuchea. Because of the 1981 military agreement between the Soviet Union and Kampuchea, some equipment, possibly aircraft and related items, almost certainly goes to the Peoples Republic of Kampuchea armed forces.

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amount of equipment received by the recipient countries. Table 3 lists alphabetically each recipient country, the Soviet arms carriers which made deliveries there during the third quarter of 1983, and the dates those ships transited the Bosphorus. (S [ ] 25X1  
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Arms shipments to three of these countries, Cuba, Syria and Iraq, were significant either in their content (arms type) or quantity. (S [ ] 25X1

### Syria

On imagery of late September 1983, we observed 18 SS-21 TEL/resupply vehicles and 48 SS-21 missile canisters at Nikolayev South (figures 2 and 3). Some of this equipment was shipped from Nikolayev South in late September, the remainder in early October. We observed nine SS-21 TEL/resupply vehicles at the Syrian port of Tartus on imagery of 4 October. We believe that all 18 SS-21 TEL/resupply vehicles and 48 SS-21 missile canisters were delivered to Syria. The SS-21 system, which is replacing the FROG-7 in Soviet units, has never before been exported--not even to Warsaw Pact countries. (S [ ] 25X1

### Iraq

Thirty-nine BMDs were exported from Nikolayev South between July and September, making a total of 72 exported so far this year. Since more than 45 of these airborne amphibious combat vehicles have been observed in Iraq so far this year--the first time this country has received the BMD--all 72 BMDs are believed to have been delivered there. (S [ ] 25X1

### Cuba

Significantly, during the third quarter we were able to observe military equipment being offloaded at the Cuban port of Mariel. Normally, military equipment is delivered to Mariel, offloaded and removed from the port quickly, and not observed on imagery. We do not know if these observations reflect a permanent change in military cargo handling procedures. (S [ ] 25X1

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**Table 3****Nikolayev Port Facilities South Port-Loaded Soviet Arms Carriers and  
Their Destinations, July-September 1983**

Ship Name	Recipient Country
Akademik Kuprevich Kapitan Kushnarenko Akademik Stechkin Akademik Kuprevich Akademik Tupolev Ismailiya	Algeria
Aleksandr Tsyurupa Kapitan Kadetskiy Akademik Stechkin Kapitan Leontiy Borisenko Kapitan Vasiliy Kulik Kapitan Lev Solovev	Angola
Kapitan Leontiy Borisenko	Benin
Kapitan Leontiy Borisenko	Congo
Kapitan Georgiy Baglay Krasnyy Oktyabr Krasnya Presnya	Cuba
Nikolay Kremlyanskiy Akademik Tupolev Mikhail Stenko Kapitan Plaushevskiy Kapitan Modest Ivanov Akademik Millionshchikov	Ethiopia
Bakuriani Minsk Khirurg Vishnevskiy	India

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Table 3 (continued)

Ship Name	Recipient Country	25X1
Akademik Stechkin Aleksandr Grin Khirurg Vishnevskiy Mozhaysk Ravenstvo Bryanskiy Rabochiy Nikolay Zhukov Mikhail Stenko Shestidesyatiletie SSSR Viktor Talalikhin Belgorod Dnestrovskiy Bezhitsa Ivan Moskalenko Bryanskiy Rabochiy	Iraq	
Akademik Millionshchikov	Jordan	
Kapitan Kaminskiv	Kampuchea	
Aleksandr Tsyurupa Kapitan Lev Solovev Kapitan Kushnarenko Akademik Stechkin Akademik Tupolev Ismailiya Nikolay Kremlyanskiy Akademik Tupolev	Libya	
Kapitan Modest Ivanov	Madagascar	
Ismailiya Kapitan Modest Ivanov Frants Bogush	Mozambique	
Nikolay Kremlyanskiy Akademik Tupolev Kapitan Plaushevskiy Vera Khoruzhaya	PDRY (South Yemen)	

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**Table 3****Nikolayev Port Facilities South Port-Loaded Soviet Arms Carriers and  
Their Destinations, July-September 1983 (continued)**

Ship Name	Recipient Country	25X1
Kapitan Leontiy Borisenko	Sao Tome and Principe	
Kapitan Modest Ivanov Frants Boqush	Sevchelles	
Kreml	Sri Lanka	
Akademik Kuprevich Akademik Tupolev Kapitan Vasiliy Kulik Mukachevo Akademik Kuprevich Frants Boqush Akademik Kuprevich Margelan Akademik Tupolev Ismailiya Nikolay Kremlyanskiy Akademik Millionshchikov Valeriy Mezhlauk	Syria	
Kreml Minsk Kapitan Kaminskiy Iona Yakir	Vietnam	
Iona Yakir Nikolay Kremlyanskiy Khirurg Vishnevskiy Frants Boqush Kapitan Modest Ivanov	YAR (North Yemen)	

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### Expansion of Port Facilities

Expansion of the port facilities at Nikolayev South continued during the third quarter. Dredging and filling operations continued, concentrating on the construction of a peninsular breakwater and enlargement of the north mole. Construction of cargo handling facilities such as railroad spurs and transit sheds had not yet begun. (S

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**References**



**Documents**

Document references are available upon request. (U)

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